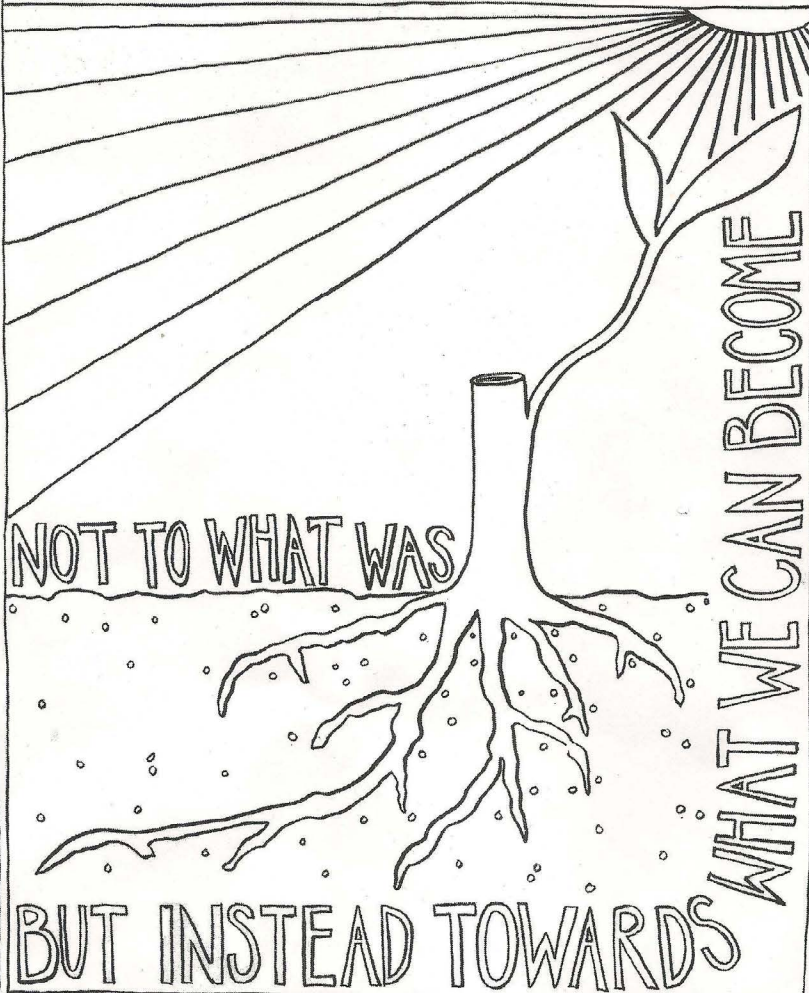


FROM EMERGENCY TO INSURGENCY

- A ZINE BY INSURGENT & CAN -

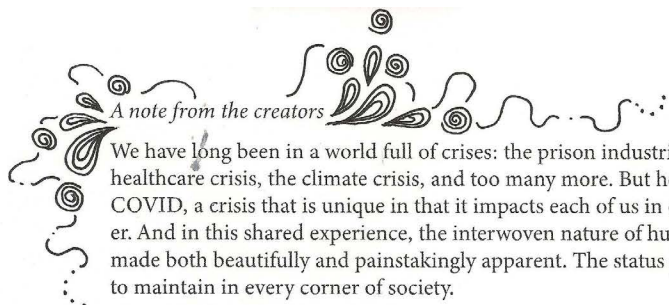
A SNAPSHOT
OF GRASSROOTS
ORGANIZING
IN EUGENE
DURING THE
COVID CRISIS

MAY WE GROW BACK



#RadiciColoring Radici Studios

ART by Jennifer Bloomer of Radici Studios



A note from the creators

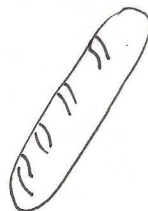
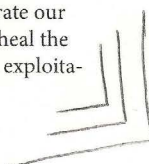
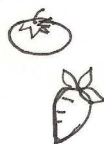
We have long been in a world full of crises: the prison industrial crisis, the healthcare crisis, the climate crisis, and too many more. But here comes COVID, a crisis that is unique in that it impacts each of us in one way or another. And in this shared experience, the interwoven nature of humanity has been made both beautifully and painstakingly apparent. The status quo is impossible to maintain in every corner of society.

But the nature of this crisis has turned our organizing strengths on its head. No longer can we find strength in large gatherings, in shared meals, in taking to the streets. But this hasn't deterred the many incredible organizers in our town. Throughout the abundant growth of spring in Eugene, our community has been buzzing with energy, coming together to creatively organize and respond to the needs arising and worsened due to the new reality of this global pandemic.

There is no clearer a moment to witness the intersectionality between the injustices in our society. Our ability to survive this crisis with minimal hardship is reliant on our ability to come together and alleviate issues that have long plagued our country, through tangible local solutions. It is only fitting to point to the saying, "we are only as strong as our weakest members," which has never been more obvious. Our food system is reliant on the health and ability of farmworkers, our ability to slow the spread of the virus is reliant on stable housing for everyone, and we can no longer allow for the institutionalized unequal treatment of human beings to continue if we are to combat the coming economic and political instability.

This is a mere local snapshot of the remarkable work of our community in response to this crisis. There exist countless other issues and unrecognized work being done to combat those issues. We must support each other, celebrate our resiliency, and recognize that in order to heal from this virus we must heal the scars of injustice originating from colonialism, slavery, patriarchy, and exploitation. From emergency to insurgency, the time for change is now.

The Student Insurgent
est. 1998



And The Dough Rises

By Forest RW

The world is ending and I bake bread.
I bake bread then muffins then bread again.
I adopt three sourdough starters and immediately smother them,
every day another feeding, another Google deep dive,
everyone tells me it should be easy.

It's flour and water,
unkillable.

The world is ending and I await the death of everything I love.
I don't understand what has happened to my home,
how my city has abandoned herself,
how I wake up from dreams where we speak face-to-face,
me on your couch, less than six feet apart,
your hand brushing
mine in a grocery aisle.

I miss saying excuse me while skirting by.
I wear gardening gloves in the grocery store
though I don't even like to wear them in the garden,
hate feeling something stand between me and the dirt.

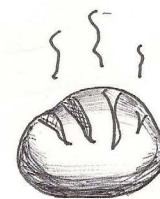
The world is ending and today
the cashier made small talk about my mask,
a gift from my father.

The world is ending and when it is warm,
I walk for hours and take a shovel to the driveway.
When it is cold, I bake bread,
sing low to my starters some old Hebrew hymn,
watch something grow just to remember that life is happening
still happening
even here.

I worry about it because
I've never been any good at keeping a good thing going.
They say it should be easy but
I've never been any good at letting a good thing be.

The world is ending and
I fold the loaf six times, try to leave her to rest;
I knead for hours to feel something living in my hands;
I quietly await the death of everything I love;
I wait.

The world is ending;
the dough rises.



MAY DAY

In the midst of this crisis, we must take care of each other.

This crisis has highlighted the flaws in our current system. Working class people and frontline communities are suffering because the government is failing to provide us with what we need. To protect those most vulnerable, we have chosen to act.

We dedicate the month of May to one common cause: giving bread and roses to all. Join us in building solidarity with our community.



On May 1, 1886, hundreds of thousands of workers across the United States went out on strike demanding an "Eight-hour day with no cut in pay." **Together we stood** in a time of economic crisis demanding that which at the time seemed unfathomable: a more just economy and dignified living for all working families.



Now, 134 years later, we are seeing the beginning of yet another economic meltdown. Millions of workers are being laid off. Millions are working for less than a living wage and in direct threat of catching a deadly virus. Millions do not qualify or have access to unemployment due to immigration or employment status. And yet trillions of our tax dollars are going to multi-billion dollar corporations instead of to the people.

With a failing unemployment system and a one-time check that hardly covers a month of rent, our neighbors are forced to go out to work when the whole world is telling them to stay home. **The time has come again for us to stand together.**

WAYS TO SPREAD BREADS AND ROSES:

- CREATE A NEIGHBORHOOD POD
(FOR MORE INFO GO TO LANEMUTUALAID.ORG)
- SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS BY ORGANIZING A RENT AND MORTGAGE STRIKE
- SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH LABOR STRUGGLES BY NOT CROSSING PICKET LINES AT WHOLE FOODS, AMAZON, INSTACART, WALMART, TARGET, AND FEDEX

lanemutualaid@gmail.com

eugenerentsrike@protonmail.com



Lane County Mutual Aid Network

The Lane County Mutual Aid network has organized to respond to the needs of the community in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. We collectively have the capacity to move through this crisis with love, compassion, and a dedication to justice.

This crisis has highlighted the flaws in our current system. Due to structural inequality, economic disparity, inaccessible healthcare, and an inadequate response from all levels of government, we are all at risk. Because of this reality, we have chosen to act.

We have live forms on our website, lanemutualaid.org, to Request Aid and Volunteer Aid, and are eager to create a region-wide network of Neighborhood Point People who are keen to the needs and resources on their block. Through this mutual aid effort, neighbors can communicate to identify and respond to each other's needs in a way that our federal, state, and local governments cannot. Please fill out a form to request aid or volunteer. You can also find Lane County Mutual Aid on Facebook and Instagram at @lanecountymutualaid, reach out to us at lanemutualaid@gmail.com, or you can call our hotline at (541) 321-8749. Our efforts are only successful when all backgrounds, capabilities, needs, and interests are honored. Together, we can build a better world.

Lane County Mutual Aid Network



Growing Pains By Heidi Osaki !!!

An Abolitionist Response to the COVID-19 Crisis

By Lane County Mutual Aid Network

If COVID has provided any opportunities for a deepening of our empathy, let it be allowing us to understand a fraction of the feelings of isolation and confinement that those who are incarcerated feel. Let this moment also remind us that we cannot continue to ignore the massive violence of the prison industrial complex. Undeniably, we are living in a moment of crisis. But mass incarceration and the prison

industrial complex that it supports is always a crisis, has always been a crisis, and will always continue to be a crisis. In the state's complete inaction to enact measures to protect our incarcerated community members, they have made a prison sentence into a death sentence. As a community, we must demand humane treatment of **all** in our community.

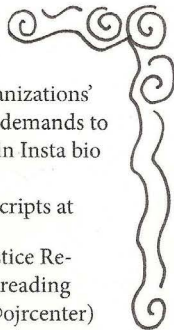
#FREETHEMALL #ABOLITIONNOW #HEALTHYCOMMUNITIES

An Abolitionist Platform (from @criticalresistance)

1. Demand freedom for all imprisoned and detailed people
2. Resist surveillance, policing, and militarized responses to COVID-19
3. Demand peoples' access to quality healthcare now and into the future
4. Ensure peoples access to housing, food, and economic security
5. Support internationalism/end us imperialism and militarism

Ways To Take Action

- Add your and/or your organizations' signature to endorse a set of demands to Portland City Council (link in Insta bio of @carenotcopspdx)
- Call and email your reps: scripts at www.ojrc.info/covid19
- Get involved in Oregon Justice Resource Center's prison letter reading campaign (details on Insta @ojrcenter)
- Join the virtual abolition study group and pen pal project (being organized, details to come soon, follow @lanecountymutualaid for updates)



Friends Inside During Covid-19

By Coral Pope

We need to know what's happening inside of prisons now more than ever, and we always need to. In some utopian world in my mind, we would send so many letters into prisons that they would overwhelm the mailroom and our friends could stack them up and climb out.

One friend in California was interviewed in a Mother Jones article relating how correctional officers are stealing their toilet paper. Another friend is navigating how to inform other prisoners about prison policies, and everyone inside is fearing a lockdown at every moment; and no, quarantine is not like lockdown or being in prison. The situations they're facing are not new; extreme isolation, brutal violence, absent or negligent medical care, food unfit for any animal to consume to name a few are the status quo. We need to know what they're facing inside so that when they need us to call or act in some other way, we will have their back. The more people inside who have a friend outside whom they can call or write about what they're facing, the safer they are.

I don't mean to relate that friendship with people inside the carceral state is always about suffering. My friends are full of joy in what ways they can be. Knowing them is a transformative and revolutionary part of my life.

Friendships can be hard to navigate in any situation. Navigating friendships with people trapped behind walls and bureaucracy are harder. Reference the New York City Anarchist Black Cross pdf about writing political prisoners; pages 22-25 are helpful advice for writing to 'anyone'. Find out if the person you're writing has access to a tablet and an emailing service because if handwriting and mailing a letter is hard for you to do, emailing may be a more accessible option for you and them.

¹ Preview below. Full guide available online.

Writing a letter to a political prisoner or prisoner of war is a concrete way to support those imprisoned for their political struggles. A letter is a simple way to brighten someone's day in prison by creating human interaction and communication—something prisons attempt to destroy. Beyond that, writing keeps prisoners connected to the communities and movements of which they are a part, allowing them to provide insights and stay up to date. Writing to prisoners is not charity, as we on the outside have as much to gain from these relationships as the prisoners. Knowing the importance of letter writing is crucial. Prisons are...

Full guide available at: https://nycabc.files.wordpress.com/2020/03/nycabc_polprisonerlisting_mar2020.pdf



A poem by Noah James, currently incarcerated in Oregon State Penitentiary

On the TV it's morbid,
The tally they keep,
On the right side of the screen,
The numbers of infected and those now dead,
No longer able to dream, love, or dread.

A collective document,
Living and so also at risk for sickness,
But at its best it protects individual human freedoms.
Yet when you are an American prisoner in a time of crisis,
You know you don't matter when it comes to any of this,
And that no document, sick or alive,
Will change the fact that you are on the State's expendable list.

Spreading like wildfire,
As they force us to infect each other,
At 7 a.m. when we line up for work,
To make cents a day,
We are still being pressed together,
Shuffling through their foul metal detectors.

I know they don't care if any of us live or die,
But what makes me mad is that if this virus had me expire tomorrow,
They would love to add one more number,
To their list of those who matter.

[illegible]

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus.

Solidarity Economy Haul

Words: Momo

Layout: Natalie

Mutual aid, because anarchy never tasted so sweet.

[to be read whilst listening to Haley Heyndrickx "Oom Sha La La"]

Monday:

Got: 1 sourdough starter (Big Bertha), 2 strawberry starts, 10 small n hairy beets, 1 sun-stained pack sunflower seeds, 1 stripey house plant of a unknown but undeniably lovely variety

Gave: 1 kombucha SCOBY, 1 bent and beloved food justice zine, 1 loaf challah, too many giggles to count



Tuesday:

Got: 1 hand-made mask, 1 bunch asparagus still warm from the sun, 1 (yes another) sourdough starter (Seymour Jr), 1 bunch foraged nettle, generous backyard hammock placement advice

Gave: 2 kale starts, 1 jar homemade granola, 3 jars pickled beets, 2 Spotify playlists, Google Drive permission to access to my detailed notes from Angela Davis and Naomi Klein's webinar



Wednesday:

Got: 1 bagel, 3 red cabbage starts, essential oils (clove, eucalyptus, lemon, cinnamon, rosemary), aloe vera, 190 proof vodka, 1 sourdough pancake recipe, advice not to cut my own bangs (tempting as it may be)

Gave: 3 marigold and bluebell bloom bouquets, 3 jars nettle pesto, 2 jars lemon ginger kombucha, a listening ear on a heavy day



Thursday:

Got: 5 banana nut muffins, 1 well used but still very much still alive electric mixer, 1 carton eggs (9 brown, 3 blue), life lessons from sourdough (be patient, find joy in the wait)

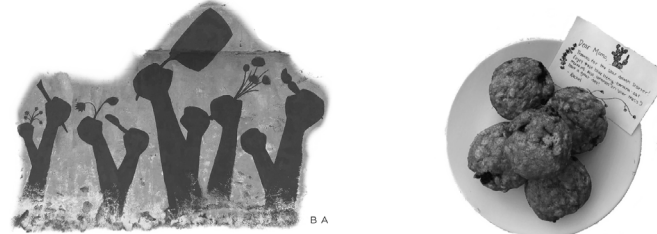
Gave: 3 half loaves sourdough bread, 3 homemade hand sanitizers, 1 watercolor painting, neighborhood pod advice



Friday:

Got: 5 seed potatoes, 1 hay bale, 1 hour of thesis copyediting, the most beautiful swiss chard i ever did see

Gave: 4 slices of carrot cake with coconut cream cheese frosting, 1 love poem (to dough, but maybe that's just a metaphor), 1 virtual shoulder to cry on



Saturday:

Got: 2 lettuce starts, 3 air hugs, 2 quality memes, 1 half of a kimchi jar of milk, permission to be vulnerable and whole

Gave: 2 kale starts, a splattered copy of the Anarchist cookbook, a tender piece of my soul n a smattering of hope



Sunday:

Got: love

Gave: love

Jordan Cove-id

By Dylan Plummer

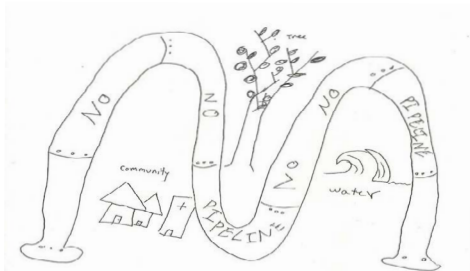
Communities across Oregon have been fighting the proposed Jordan Cove fracked gas pipeline and export terminal for over fifteen years now. First proposed in 2004, this 232 mile pipeline and export terminal has drawn opposition from a broad cross-section of Oregonians, including tribes, impacted landowners, and climate activists.

Spanning from Malin in Southern Oregon east of the Cascades to Coos Bay where the export terminal would be located, the Jordan Cove Energy Project would become the largest source of carbon emissions in the state and would impact over 400 waterways. Its construction would require the desecration of innumerable Klamath Tribal cultural sites, and would endanger rivers central to their cultural practices. Additionally, eminent domain would be used for the construction of the project, dispossessing hundreds of U.S. citizens of their private property in the name of this fossil fuel pipeline. For these reasons and many more, a coalition of Oregonians has formed to educate, organize, and litigate against the construction of the project.



The project is currently on its third iteration, after having been rejected by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) twice in previous years. Yet, this past March while the world watched in horror as hundreds of thousands were hospitalized and died due to the COVID-19 crisis, FERC moved to approve Jordan Cove. While this shocking decision has created a path forward for the project, construction cannot begin until all of the necessary State permits are obtained. As of now, Jordan Cove is lacking three critical State permits, and Oregon Governor Kate Brown has vowed to fight to stop the project until it has met the State's criteria for these approvals.

Nonetheless, impacted landowners along the pipeline's route, many of whom are rural and low-income Oregonians, are still facing an immediate threat. FERC's approval of the project has given Pembina, the Canadian corporation behind the proposal, the ability to file eminent domain lawsuits against landowners opposed to the project to force them to give up their land for the pipeline's



construction. These costly lawsuits are putting the already vulnerable population on the frontlines of this fight at even greater risk, and unnecessarily burdening them during the unprecedented COVID-19 global health crisis.

Support these landowners by making a contribution to their legal defense fund at: <https://actionnetwork.org/fundraising/support-the-pacific-connector-easement-action-team>

Houselessness

To control the spread of the pandemic, The Center for Disease Control (CDC) released protocol stating that, "Unless individual housing units are available CDC has asked to halt camp sweeps, and states that, do not clear encampments during community spread of COVID-19." (<https://www.cdc.gov/.homeless.unsheltered-homelessness.html>). The City of Eugene has consistently failed to follow these guidelines because sweeps continue to occur without providing viable or adequate alternatives.

The City only created 40 new beds in temporary camps for a homeless population of 4,000+, none of which were accessible for the disabled and medically fragile. The County created emergency congregated shelter for .200 people. However, all of these sites are in the process of being shut down after Kate Brown started Phase I of reopening on May 15th. The pandemic is not over and folks that have found safety will be at risk again if they cannot shelter safely.

The police did not follow any social

Join the movement to stop Jordan Cove and the fossil fuel corporations trying to profit off of this pandemic. Call your representatives and ask them to sign onto this letter calling on an immediate moratorium on the approval and construction of liquid natural gas (LNG) infrastructure like the Jordan Cove Energy Project: <https://noLNGexports.good.do/stopjordancove/nonessentialwork/>

distancing protocol during the sweeps – they touched belongings, crowded around individuals in groups of 6 or more and did not wear any Personal Protective Equipment. When protestors showed up to cop watch peacefully holding signs, they were immediately asked to move to the sidewalks and given arrest warnings. The city does not want to be questioned on their disparities or inadequacies, placing thousands of lives at risk.

Stop Death On the Streets, a group fighting for housing justice, has asked to stop the sweeps of current camps until there are sanctioned areas for all unhoused people. These areas need to have access to bathrooms, showers, and basic needs. Lane County has less than 500 shelter beds and 4,000+ neighbors without housing with no public shelter option planned beyond June 2020. They ask the city to create long-term solutions that actually address the number of adults, children and families without homes. Our response to the pandemic is only successful if the most vulnerable amongst us are protected.

Unhoused & Untreated: Shelter-in-Place Where?

By Julia Jaquery

COVID-19 has thrown all sorts of complications into people's lives this season: abruptly ending jobs, canceling events, halting travel, and forcing the population to stay at home, all with the intention of slowing the spread of the disease.

But where do you go when you have no place to go? Eugene has the largest unhoused population per capita in the country, which has been a crisis long before the days of coronavirus. To solve the conundrum of a shelter-in-place order for the unhoused, the county provided funding for several shelters to open. But, to no one's surprise, crowded shelters and a highly infectious virus don't mix too well.

Enter Occupy Medical, a completely volunteer-run nonprofit organization that has been providing free medical care to the unhoused community since 2011. That's right-- not since March, but since 2011. No questions asked, no "qualifying" for care, no insurance hullabaloo. Just pure unadulterated free healthcare, *because it's a human right.*

Occupy runs a free clinic on Sundays in Springfield, but due to the pandemic, the county gave us funding to open a 24-7 medical respite to shelter folks with COVID symptoms and prevent spread. However, the turn of the public eye to this issue has been complicated. "There's been a lot of compassion for the unhoused, but the drive for movement on this issue has largely come out of fear-- protecting the housed community from the unhoused," Mackenzie Flainn, one of the head herbalists with Occupy, expressed. "Although we were able to open this respite, the county has hindered the unhoused community by shutting down the bus routes that actually get people to our clinic and to the hospital. That gets in the way of those folks being able to help themselves stay safe."

Coronavirus has exposed a lot of the need that the unhoused community was already facing before any of this went down. With businesses beginning to reopen, the county is planning to pull funding from the shelters that were opened in response to COVID, turning folks back out onto the street. This not only exacerbates the threat of people contracting the virus, which would devastate this already at-risk population, but is also an unthinkable reversal of an action that the county should have taken years ago to get folks inside.

Healthcare and housing are intertwined by the same thread: human rights. Both are absolutely and undeniably necessary. COVID has permanently changed our society, and part of that change is requiring accountability and integrity from our government to provide for its constituents, especially after the shortcomings of

the status quo have been exposed. Clearly, there was enough funding sitting around to open multiple shelters almost immediately in response to this crisis. These shelters should remain a permanent fixture in the Eugene-Springfield area. Our community demands what it deserves: Healthcare and housing for all!

Solidarity Share Fair, COVID-19 Edition

Edited from an interview conducted by Matthew O-G and published at <https://solidarity.page/>

Before COVID, the Share Fair was a really free market connecting 200-300 people with resources the last Tuesday of each month. At the Share Fair you would find:

- Free food, clothes, and supplies
- Free services like haircuts, sewing, and massages
- Helpful local organizations providing information about their services (like HIV Alliance and Women's Space)
- Music and a space to relax, talk with people, and just be.

The Solidarity Share Fair (COVID-19 Edition) is a monthly mobile sharing project. We distribute around 150 care packages to key locations throughout the city as well as to individuals who express a need for help.

The Solidarity Share Fair has changed entirely in efforts to limit exposure in our community. We shifted from being a large resource sharing gathering to a few teams of volunteers, masked and gloved, dropping off care packages to specific and spread out regions around Eugene and Springfield.

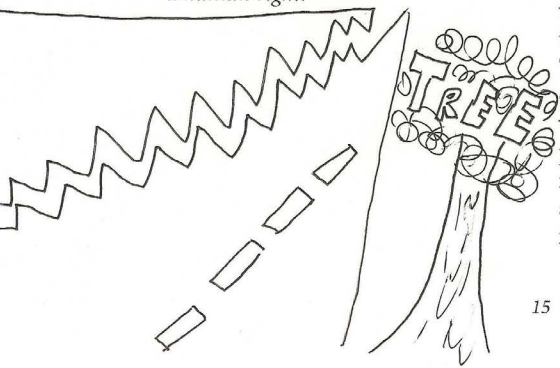
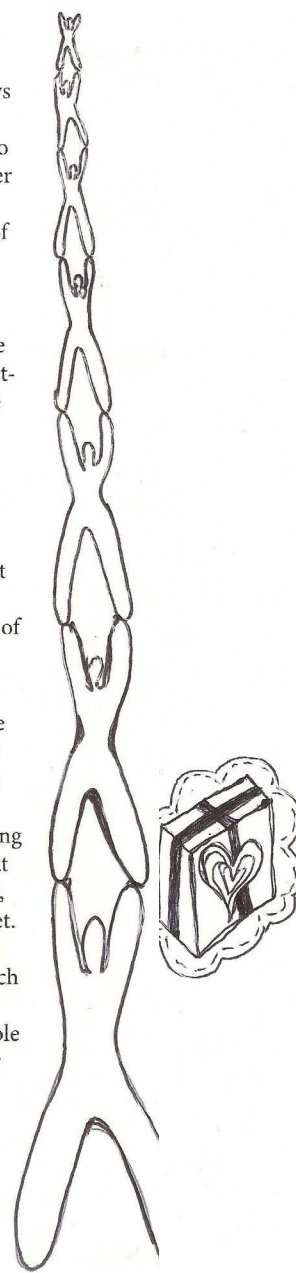
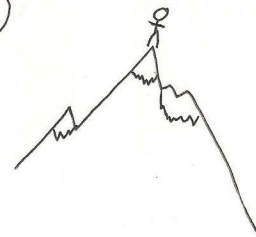
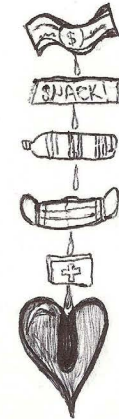
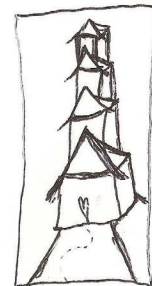
Community members can help by donating items on our wish list or sending money for us to purchase these things.

Wish list: Emergen-C packets, multivitamins, masks, individually packaged snacks, water bottles, body wipes/baby wipes, first aid kits, cough drops, tarps, peanut butter, jelly, sandwich bags

GoFundMe <https://www.gofundme.com/f/share-fair>

All donations are tax deductible.

<https://neighborhoodanarchists.org/share-fair-covid>



Workers during pandemic

Edited from interviews conducted by the DSA Labor Committee and published at <https://dsaeugene.org/>

The Custodian

Within this past month, I've seen everything around here consistently change. At work, it's quite chaotic as contracts and assignments are being shifted around every which way. At home, I haven't physically seen any of my family or friends. Every time I think I've adjusted to the new normal, something else changes. With the news and conditions at work, things are changing, simultaneously going very fast and very slow.

I am a custodian during a pandemic. I have to get in contact with the rest of the building's coughs, sneezes and other human waste every day. My job's higher ups are doing what they can in regards to safety, but there's only so much they can do since a lot of our supply chain has been severed. Even the simple disposable gloves, dust masks and hand sanitizer is more than other workers are getting.

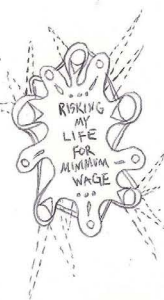
Almost no one at work aside from me and my coworker are taking social distancing seriously. They only recently started wearing masks because they were forced to. But even with the masks, I'll still see scenes like the security forces meeting in a small room and talking with their masks pulled down pretty regularly. Any attempt to politely remind people at work about social distancing gets met with passive aggressive behavior. Outside work, it also seems like no one is taking this pandemic seriously. It felt to me like

people were gone for two days, but now it's just as busy as ever. I regularly see people with no masks taking walks, having picnics, hanging out with friends or loved ones while I can't see anyone, especially my mom as she is immune-compromised.

Every now and then, I'll get a "thank you" from someone at work. But that doesn't make up for the fact that I am working this job with no hazard pay, no insurance, no benefits and no legal way to unionize. It doesn't make up for the fact that I'm risking my life every day just for minimum wage. This whole thing has put me in a consistent state of stress. It's really getting me depressed again.

We have to take social distancing seriously. Custodians are exposed to so much contaminants that we have to assume we are asymptomatic and contagious. We don't get to treat this whole thing like a vacation. We don't get to go to friend's houses to "quarantine" for the day. We aren't out there making quarantine memes on Twitter. We don't get to travel much further than the beelines from home to work and home to the grocery store. We don't get the luxury to work at home. Our job is more important than ever. And yet, we have no change to our material conditions.

I hope the stay at home workers realize how lucky they are. I hope the petit bourgeois change their views about workers like me. I hope the capitalists are afraid of what we workers may do



Groovy



next. I hope the so-called "left" in the government realize the dangers they're in if they abandon the working class (which is the most diverse class) in this critical moment. And finally, I hope we can destroy capitalism and end this exploitation once and for all.

The Carpenter

Here in Oregon many workplaces are participating in the "stay-at-home" order. I work as a carpenter on a big job at the University of Oregon. Construction has been deemed an "essential service" during the self isolation period. I found that it was almost impossible to practice social distancing on the jobsite. There was some effort being made to clean handrails and provide sanitizer, but on a jobsite we have to work in close proximity with others. There are too many situations that make social distancing impossible such as, team lifting, riding an elevator or working in a confined space.

The option was provided to me to take a voluntary lay off. I'm lucky that I was able to take the offer. I don't think it's worth risking one's life to build a new building for a currently closed university.

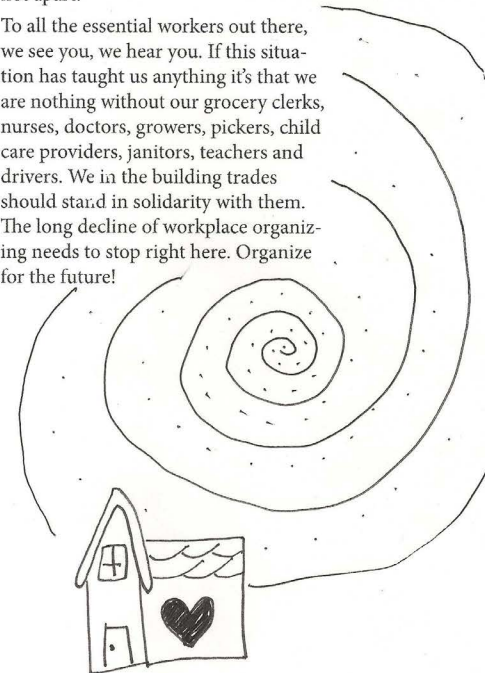
Nearly all of my co-workers have continued to work, no doubt because they have no choice. Their families have always come before their own health and safety. It's a sad reality of working in construction. It's one of the most dangerous jobs a person can do.

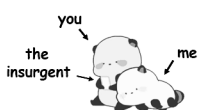
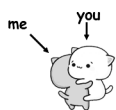
Furthermore those who are unlucky enough to be without a union are in a much more difficult position. The pay is typically about 30-40% less and most employers provide no insurance at all. Those folks can't stop work and if they

get sick they risk losing everything if they are forced to seek medical care. It's a truly difficult situation.

Construction is NOT AN ESSENTIAL INDUSTRY! Unless you are constructing an emergency medical facility there is simply no reason to risk your life for your job. In fact even if you are building an emergency medical facility, it isn't for you. It's for a private corporation to profit from your precarious position. If there is one thing I could tell all workers everywhere it's to get organized! Talk to each other, make plans, make strategies, stand together not apart.

To all the essential workers out there, we see you, we hear you. If this situation has taught us anything it's that we are nothing without our grocery clerks, nurses, doctors, growers, pickers, child care providers, janitors, teachers and drivers. We in the building trades should stand in solidarity with them. The long decline of workplace organizing needs to stop right here. Organize for the future!





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